S.r Stephen Fox of ye Parish of S.t Martins
in the Fields Knight 1703.

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A

Short Review

OF THE

Remarkable Providences:

ATTENDING

Our Gracious Sovereign

WILLIAM the IIId.

Continued

From the Year 1693, down to this Day.

LONDON:

Printed for *Tho. Ax*, at the *Blue Ball* in *Duck-Lane*. MDCXCIX.

TO

The Right Honourable

THE

Lords of the Treaſury:

My Lords,

THE Peculiar Favours your Lordſhips have from time to time vouchſaf'd me, have encouraged me to prefix your

Names to this Treatiſe. Tho the Performance be Mean and Defective, the Subject is Great and Glorious: And upon that Account I am hopeful it may meet with a Kind Reception from your Lordſhips.

Great *William*'s Heroick Acts, and the Care of Heaven in protecting his Sacred Perſon, and Directing his Counſels, is a Subject that you are not unacquainted with. 'Tis a ſcene of Wonder, and a Fruitful ſource of delightful Contemplations. What Nobler Task can be allotted,

lotted, than to adore our God, and admire our Prince; to commemorate the Wiſdom and Goodneſs of Heaven, and Celebrate the Praiſes of an Immortal *Hero!*

'Tis true, ſo large a Theam requires a more accurate Pen. But perhaps this may ſerve to awaken others, and invite them to poliſh and refine, what is here ſo lamely perform'd. Whilſt greater Men are ſilent upon this Subject, I cou'd not forbear making ſome attempts that way.

Tho' I have expos'd my ſelf to the cenſure of Critic's,

and the reflections of a nice Age, I hope, I have not done amiſs, by endeavouring to approve my ſelf to be a Good Chriſtian, and a Loyal Affectionat Subject. I retain ſuch ſenſible Impreſſions of my Prince's Favour, that I think I can never do enough to expreſs my Loyalty and Gratitude. And the kindneſs of Heaven in Eſpouſing his Intereſt, and forwarding his great deſigns is a fit Subject of Praiſe and Admiration. Tho it center in his Perſon, it turns to the Account of all Chriſtendom. Every Private

ſubject

subject ought to receive it as done to himself, and return the due tribute of Praise and Gratitude.

'Twas the sense of this that mov'd me at first to appear in Public, and Vindicate the Glory of the Divine Name: Which I was further influenc'd to do, by the unsuitable Carriage of a Heedless and Ungrateful World. A World, that when loaded with blessings, and supported by the Divine Care, remains still insensible of his Goodness, and Accounts for their mercies, no other way, than by refer-

ing

ing them to the turns of Fortune, or the Power of Men.

But whoever will ſeriouſly review the Tragical Scene of paſt Troubles, and the Manner of our Wonderful Deliverance; the Dangers to which our Prince has been expos'd, and his Miraculous Eſcapes; the Conduct of Divine Providence in over-ruling the Counſels of our Enemies, and turning all their Plots to our advantage; will find cauſe to diſclaim the ſufficiency of Mere Men, and aſcribe ſuch unwonted Revolutions

lutions to the Omnipotent hand.

I have endeavour'd in the following ſheets to make it out, that without the immediate aſſiſtance and direction of Heaven ſuch Glorious and Happy Turns could ne'r have been effected. And I am hopeful I have not ſhot ſhort of my Mark. I'm ſure my Cauſe is Good, and the Concluſion is true. If either my Arguments, or the manner handling them appear inconcluſive, it muſt be imputed to my weakneſs. For the Matter is fertile, and abounds

bounds with Forcible Topic's; If have been but ſo happy as to hit right upon 'em, or manage them well when diſcover'd. But this is too nice a Subject to inſiſt upon; and beſides, I am affraid of Treſpaſſing upon your Lordſhips Patience.

My Lords,

This, in ſhort, is the deſign of my Book, and I hope 'tis ſo far both Innocent and Laudable. Both it and its unworthy Author are humbly caſt at your feet to beg protection and Countenance.

Your

Your Lordſhips favour is only ſufficient to ſcreen me from the inſolent attacks of envy and Malice. And if I can but obtain it, I ſhall reſt ſecure, and ſing a requiem in midſt of Troubles.

I am deeply ſenſible of the Obligations I owe to your Lordſhips, and my Royal Maſter. I muſt own to all the World that thro' your Lordſhips favour I have taſted liberally of his Bounty. And I hope I have not done any thing unworthy of it. I am ſo far from grudging what blood

I've

I've ſpent in his Service, that I am ready ſtill to Sacrifice the remainder, when occaſion ſerves. And whilſt the Field affords no Opportunity of ſerving him, my pen, my tongue, and all the ſorry remains ſhall be employ'd in doing ſomething, that ſhall proclaim to the World my inviolable loyalty, Affection and Gratitude.

The largeſt extent of my wiſhes is, that I may never do any thing to forfeit his Majeſty's kindneſs, or your Lordſhip's Favour. The dayly ſup-

ſupplies I receive from time to time, and the proſpect of future Bounty, are the ſtricteſt tyes Imaginable, and the moſt forcible motives of Homage and Obedience. They make ſuch ſenſible impreſſions upon my mind, that *I* deſire to live no longer, than while *I* am.

My Lords,

March 20. 1699. *Your Lordſhips moſt humble, moſt obliged, and moſt Devoted Servant,*

J. WHITTIL.

TO THE READER.

Courteous Reader,

I Here present you with a View of the Remarkable Providences attending His Majesty of Great *Britain*. I have Contracted them within as narrow a Com-

a

Compaſs as poſſibly I could. And have chiefly inſiſted upon thoſe which happen'd ſince the Year of our Lord, One Thouſand Six Hundred and Ninety Three.

Thoſe of an Older Date are already related in a Treatiſe I Publiſh'd ſome Years ago upon the ſame ſubject. But in order to make this preſent account more diſtinct, I have transfer'd them hither by way of Recapitulation, in the firſt three Chapters.

I Imagin'd it might prove more acceptable to the Reader, to ſee them all with one View, than to Travel from one Book to another to make up the Complement. Beſides, my former Book may perhaps ſeem burthenſom to ſome, by reaſon of its long Periods and Frequent Digreſſions; which, I think, I have taken care to avoid in this.

Upon the whole, I flatter my ſelf, that the Errors and Defects of the former are corrected and ſupplied in this. I

have all along ſtudied Brevity, and have chiefly inſiſted upon the turns of Divine Providence, and the happy Conſequences that enſu'd upon many diſmal Accidents.

I do not pretend to give a Particular and Circumſtantiat Account of Matters of Fact. They were undertaken and acted on a Public Scene, and are ſufficiently made known to all the World. Therefore I have ſpar'd both my own and the Readers Pains.

The

The World is at Liberty to judge as they pleaſe of the performance. I am neither afraid of their Cenſure, nor inclin'd to ſolicit for favour. The merits of my cauſe and the Innocence of my deſign, will Bouy me up when depreſs'd by the Gavils of Envious Detracters.

I deſire no further favour of any Critic, than this; that if he ſtickle at the Lameneſs of my performance, he would employ his Pen in doing Juſtice to the Noble Subject. And ſhall account my ſelf

happy in having given occaſion to ſuch a laudable undertaking.

I am very far from being ſo full of my ſelf, as to engroſs the Subject to my ſelf, or Claim a Monopoly of what all *Europe* ought to ſhare. Were our fine Pens as Accurate or as Numerous as we could wiſh, yet ſtill here is work enough for 'em all. Their Loftieſt ſtroaks cannot reach the height of our *Hero*'s Merit, or Heaven's Goodneſs. The Inſtances are ſo many and ſo often repeated, that

that all the of *Posse* Writers is at a loss to recount 'em.

To conclude, I have this to comfort me, that if my sorry performance be unworthy of the Subject, so must that of all other Men. Since the greatest *Goliah*'s are afraid to venture, and are Jealous of coming short of the merit of their Theam; 'tis no shame for me to partake of the Common Lot.

To the Reader.

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at a lofs to account with.

To conclude, I have this
to comfort me, that if my
[illegible] performance be unwor-
[illegible] of the Subject, it muſt
[illegible] of all other Men. Since
[illegible] Greateſt Clerks are afraid
to Write, and are ſilent out of
meaning Fear of the Cenſure of
their Betters; 'tis no Shame
for me to partake of the
common Lot.

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A

Short Review

OF THE

Remarkable Providences;

Attending our Gracious Sovereign

WILLIAM IIId.

Continued from the Year 1693, down to this Day.

The Introduction.

THE Subject of the enſuing Diſcourſe, is *William* the Third of *England*; that Illuſtrious *Heroe*, that fills the Mouths of Mankind with his Praiſes, and is the preſent Object of the Love and Admiration of all the World, both Popiſh and Reform'd. Whilſt the

World ſtands amus'd with his ſtupendious Actions, and is buſied in careſſing his Boundleſs and Immortal fame, I thought it might be an acceptable piece of Service to cull out ſuch remarkable Periods of his Life, as loudly proclaim how dear he is to Heaven, as well as Mankind. And indeed, his whole Life is but one continued Inſtance of the Divine care towards him. Such an uninterrupted ſcene of Remarkable Providences has attended every ſtep of his Life, that in relating them, I am oblig'd to begin as early as his Cradle, and Trace every Footſtep down to this very Day.

The greater part of this Deduction I have already purſued, in a ſmall Treatiſe I Publiſh'd ſome Years ago, under the Title of *Couſtantinus Redivivus*; having there

continued

continued the Hiſtory of the wonderful accidents that attended our Mighty Sovereign, from the firſt Minute of his happy Birth, to the Year one Thouſand Six Hundred and Ninety Three. Now, the remaining Interval from that time to this very Day, muſt be the Subject of our enſuing Scrutiny; which is as full of Remarkable Inſtances of the Divine Care and Goodneſs, as any other Period of his Life, if not more. But, conſidering how Lame our Diſcourſe would ſeem, if not uther'd in with the previous ſeries of the ſame ſort of Heavenly Protections, that Commenc'd from the firſt hour of his Birth; I thought it not improper, or rather neceſſary, to prefix a brief Recapitulation of theſe ſignal Inſtances, recounted more largely in the foremention'd book. The

Summary of 'em ſhall be very ſhort, and follows in order: But, to make the Account more diſtinct and compleat, a ſhort View of his illuſtrious Family and Parentage muſt lead the Van.

CHAP

CHAP. I.

Of the Family and Parentage of King William.

HE is Lineally deſcended of the moſt Ancient and Magnificent Houſe of *Naſſaw*; Renown'd throughout all *Europe* for its Potent and Auguſt Alliances, and that Numerous Progeny of *Immortal Heroes* that ſprung from its Bowels. *Germany* boaſts of a Numberleſs Train of Splendid Families deſcended of it. *Adolphus*, their Emperor, gave 'em ſignal inſtances of the Merit and Glory of the houſe of *Naſſau*, of which he came. As he grac'd his aFmily with thehonour and Majeſty of an Imperial Crown; So

he adorn'd and beautified the *Roman* Scepter, with the hereditary Spirit and Vertues of his Anceſtors. When waging War with *Ottocarus*, King of *Bohemia*, he was ſolicited by an Aſſaſſine to encourage the taking off his Enemy; but (like another *Curius*) generouſly rejected the treacherous Offer, and ſaid, *That no Itch of Revenge ſhould ever tempt him to ſwerve from the Principles of Honour and Juſtice.*

In fine, All the hiſtories and Records of time, for theſe laſt thouſand years (for ſo long it has ſtood) are full of the diſtinguishing Actions and Glory of this Auguſt Family. Theſe Laſt two Centuries, they have appear'd in All the Commotions and Revolutions almoſt in *Europe*, and have always diſtinguish'd themſelves by ſiding with the Right Cauſe. They ever with-

withſtood Tyranny and Oppreſſion, and were the *happy Inſtruments* of defending and preſerving the true Religion, the Liberty and Property of ſuch as groan'd under Oppreſſion.

Prince *William* the firſt, of Ever Glorious Memory (Great Grandfather to our preſent *Engliſh Heroe*) was the only Man could withſtand the over-grown Power of *Spain*, and put a ſtop to the rigid and ſevere uſage of its Subjects. He reſcued the oppreſs'd Inhabitants of the *Netherlands* from Popery, Inquiſition and Slavery. He miraculouſly ſurmounted All the infinite Difficulties that lay in his way; and maugre All the Power, Might and Rage of the then moſt Puiſſant Monarch in the World, laid the Foundation of the moſt Flouriſhing Republick

in the Univerſe, the only ballance of the Affairs of *Europe* at this day.

A Republick that from ſmall and weak beginnings, roſe to that height of Power and Greatneſs as to coap with the greateſt Crown'd Heads, and make a very conſiderable Figure in the Affairs of *Europe*. 'Tis Incredible what Reſolution, Conduct, Courage and Conſtancy, was needful to have compaſs'd ſo great a work. Had not he tenderly and wiſely directed their Infancy, they had periſh'd almoſt in the very Birth; ſo weak and puny was their Conſtitution, that had not he upheld cheriſh'd and ſtrengthen'd em by degrees, they had ſunk into nothing. Poverty and Diſtreſs was all their Motto; they ſaw no hopes of Relief, no poſſibility of perfecting

fecting their deſign, but what he afforded 'em.

And when he was taken off, they had been in a worſe condition than ever, had not his Martial and Active Poſterity taken in hand to finiſh what the Illuſtrious Father had Wonderfully begun. They by their continued Vigilancy, frequent Battles, and Glorious Victories, fix'd and Eſtabliſh'd the dear bought Liberty and Greatneſs of their Country. What he had purchas'd and founded, they improv'd and finiſh'd. They ſtood at no Danger, and ſpared no Expence of Treaſure or Blood, to ſerve their Country, and Immortalize their Fame. The greateſt of their Enemies, and moſt Partial Hiſtorians, cannot avoid doing them Juſtice upon this head; that they all diſcovered

ſuch

ſuch Magnanimity and Greatneſs of Soul, as is not to be Parallell'd in the ſucceſſive lineage of any Family in the World. Nor has fame been Injurious to their memories; its Flaggy Wings are Loaded with the weight of their Immortal Praiſe, which will remain freſh and ſolid throughout ſucceding Ages, when Monuments of Marble and Stately Triumphant Piles, are moulder'd into Rubbiſh, and have fallen a ſacrifice to devouring time.

Our *Heroe* had the Misfortune never to ſee any of theſe his Noble Predeceſſors; His Princely Father was ſnatch'd away in the flower of his Age by the ſmall Pox, ſome Days before he was Born. The loſs of ſo great and hopeful a Prince was very ſurpriſing to all *Europe*; but eſpecially to his Vertuous and Royal

al Princeſs, that was then ſo near the hour of her Labour. And it had well nigh prov'd fatal to *Holland*, that then wanted their Governour and Upholder; without any iſſue left capable to ſupply his place.

The falſe meaſures they took in the Interval, from the Death of this Prince till our *Heroe* came of Age, which had in the end almoſt given 'em for a Prey to their Enemy, are ſhroud inſtances of the uſefulneſs of the Family of *Orange* to that State; and the wonderful deliverance he compleated for them upon his firſt Embarkment into the World, gives a plain intimation of their Blindneſs and Ungratitude, in endeavouring to ſhake off their dependance upon them, and pretend to ſhift for themſelves. But their Crime was too viſible in their Punishment;

They

They ſaw, and e'en almoſt too late, that the ſame Power and Intereſt as gave them their Being, was requiſite to prolong and continue the ſame. His valorous Atchievments on their behalf, and the Affectionate care he took of 'em, Notwithſtanding the Provocations he had to the contrary, are plain Demonſtrations, that he inherits all the Martial and Princely Vertues of his Anceſtors, and withal the ſame diſpoſition to do Good.

But I find I am got a peg too low, when *I* only repreſent him, as deſcended of a Noble Family that can boaſt of a continued ſeries of *Heroes* for a Thouſand Years together; or as one born to inherit their poſſeſſions and laudable qualities. Tho this may be an Encomium ſufficient for *Hero*'s of an

an ordinary level, 'tis a pitch too low for his high ſoaring Genius; *It* muſt be ſomething purely his own, not handed down by ſucceſſion, nor Learn'd by preceding example, that can be wreath'd with his Lawrels;

Nam Genus & Proavos & quæ non fecimus ipſi,
Vix ea noſtra voco.

If we conſult the better part of his Life, we'll meet with a great many Actions uncommon among the greateſt *Heroes*; and unprefidented even in his own Magnificent Family. That State which ow'd its Being and Growth to his Princely Predeceſſors, was upon the point of utter ruine, nay, in a manner loſt and gone, when he retriev'd it, and ſet it upon its former

former Legs. Tho the work was rather greater than the first forming of the Republick, by reason of their low desperate condition, and the Power and Activity of their Enemy, and the small or no force he had to back him; yet he carried it on with so much Valour, Conduct and Success, that in the space of a few Days, he not only remov'd the then present oppression, but retriev'd their former Glory and Grandeur. No Humane means could have pretended sufficiency for effecting it, in those Circumstances.

Doubtless, the Divine Providence did signally concur in enabling him to do, what no mere Humane force could have compass'd. Nor did it less appear in his happy Accession to the Crown of *England*, which no Eye tho never so piercing

piercing could have foreſeen.

Since Providence has ſo viſibly ſtretch'd forth its Arm in Conducting him through ſo many difficult ſteps; and continues ſtill to Guard his Royal Head; 'tis our Duty to have our Eyes fix'd on it, and adore the hand of Heaven when diſplayed in his Perſon: *I've* therefore attempted to ſurvey the more Noted Actions and Circumſtances of his Life, in order to remark ſuch diſtinguiſhing ſtroaks as plainly diſcover their Divine Original. But *I've* already diſcours'd elſewhere of the earlier favours of Heaven, that is, ſuch as preceded the Year one Thouſand Six Hundred and Ninety three, and ſhall therefore wind 'em all up under a few Heads.

CHAP. II.

A short review of the more signal Providences attending him from his Birth, to the Year Seventy Two.

THE Circumstances of his Birth and Infancy, present us with a Remarkable instance of his interest in Heaven; Had not the Divine hand miraculously interpos'd in his favours, no Humane Force or Conduct could have overcome the Difficulties attended him, at least so as to make 'em a step to further Glory and Honour. It is the peculiar Prerogative of the Darlings of Heaven, that what is mean'd for their Destruction, serves only to

to exalt them, and amuſe their Enemies.

The Barbarous procedure of the *Dutch* Miniſters of State, with reference to him; which tho mean'd for his utter ruine, prov'd in effect the Foundation and Original of all his future Greatneſs; is a Notable Example to that purpoſe. He was from his infancy cruſh'd by the inceſſant malice of a *Barneveltian* Club; he was cruelly diſrob'd of all his Hereditary Dignities and Poſts. He alone was the butt of all the Malice, Fury and Cruelty of the moſt puiſſant State in the World. They made peace with all other Enemies, and choſe to Wage War with him alone. They apprehended no danger but from an innocent Babe, and Levell'd all their mighty Projects at the Growth of a forlorn Prince.

And in order to depreſs him more effectually, disbanded all their *Veterans*, for fear their unſhaken fidelity to the Houſe of *Orange*, and their invincible Courage in ſtanding by it, ſhould have prov'd fatal to the buſy Projectors. What forces they retain'd were commanded by Clowniſh unexperienc'd Cits. They durſt not entruſt them to experienc'd and Brave Commanders, whoſe greater Souls would ne'er have ſtoop'd to their baſe deſigns ; but rather have manfully oppos'd 'em, and Vindicated the Honour and Rights of a Hopeful Prince. But the aſſiſtance of Men was not needful, while Heaven favour'd him, and overrul'd all their Helliſh Plots to his Honour and their Confuſion.

The effect of all this ungrateful treatment was only to advance his good,

good, and the benefit of the Christian World. It laid the first Foundation of his rising Glory, and Qualify'd him for an Instrument in Gods hand, to accomplish the Decrees of Heaven.

The first effect it had, was upon his Humour and Temper; it taught him a wise reserv'd way of behaviour, a necessary Qualification for an undertaker of such weighty Exploits; it inur'd him to a moderate discreet carriage, an engaging patient temper, and a sweet indifferency under all surprising Accidents; *In* fine, it acquainted him with all the measures of Wisdom and Experience, and Crown'd his princely Temper with all the engaging Attractive qualities, that justly entitle him to the Character of *Europe's* Darling.

'Tis true these qualities are generally look'd upon as Natural and not acquir'd. But Consider, how hard a task it is to distinguish betwixt the byass of Nature, and the influence of Education and the Circumstances that attend it, I humbly presume I have not injur'd the former in alloting to the latter a Competent share in that Noble product.

When such means as were projected for to stifle and choak all his Princely Vertues, are by an overruling hand directed to his advantage, without any counter-design or interposal of men to that effect, methinks it turns so naturally to heavens account, that the denial would be equally ridiculous and unjust. His implacable Enemies hugg'd themselves in the fancy of having by

this

this early depreſſion effectually ſmother'd the ſeeds of greatneſs in his Breaſt, but were ſo far from compaſſing their end, that on the Contrary it contributed not a little to improve and Qualify his Heroick Mind, for the great work of *Europe*'s deliverance.

And as the continuance of troubles, and frequency of unmerited and unexpected diſappointments, wrought him into the Temper and Conduct of the Wiſeſt Politician; ſo the Juſt Senſe he retain'd of the barbarous uſage, inſpir'd him with a Generous and Seatonable Reſentment: And thus by vindicating his own injur'd Honour, he was admirably fitted for redreſſing the Grievances of *Europe*. His own Caſe made him liable to the ſame ſort of Oppreſſion and Injuſtice as *Europe* groan'd under; and the

Juſt Reſentment of his own private Injuries, gave occaſion to diſplay that Reſolution and Courage, that has ſince prov'd the ſupporter of Falling Liberty, the Staff of declining Religion, and the Maintainer of injur'd Right and Property.

Can any thing more properly be aſcrib'd to Divine Providence, than this amazing Turn? That ſuch a Combination of Events, as in all humane probability, tended to his Overthrow, ſhould furniſh the Gradual Steps of his Riſe and Grandeur; that the Politick Devices of his Enemies ſhould, by an unwonted and unexpected Cataſtrophe, prove a Snare to themſelves, and qualify and prepare him for being the Greateſt Heroe of the Age. Doubtleſs, the Almighty requires our Attentive and Grateful Returns, when he ſtretch-

es

es forth his Arm ſo viſibly.

What account can we give of the Memorable Story of the *Dewits*, who muſt be acknowledg'd by All, to have been Men of great Foreſight in Counſel. and Activity in Execution? Who is it that baffles the Counſel of *Achitophel*, *and turns the Devices of the Wicked upon their own Heads*? It muſt needs be the ſame Omnipotent Hand that renvers'd their beſt Contrivances, prevented all their Politick Fetches, and ſuffer'd 'em to *fall by the Snare they had laid for the Innocent*. And indeed I think 'tis ſcarce imaginable what power ſhort of Omnipotence could have brought ſuch a ſurpriſing Event to paſs. They were at that time the Darlings of their Country; they had the Keys of *Holland* in their hands: One ſate at the Helm

of Civil Affairs, and Rul'd the State with an uncontroulable ſway. The other commanded the Naval Force, and was Maſter of the Guardian Wall of the Country. They were ſetled and confirm'd in their Poſts; their Meaſures had taken place for Twenty Years together, and their Experience had entitled 'em to the Characters of *the Wiſe and Sage.*

But their Tragical *Exit* is a fatal Proof of the Weakneſs of all human Conjectures, and a plain Demonſtration of the Will of Heaven, which they withſtood. The Low Ebb their Country was reduced to, thro their ill management, and their Enmity to the Family of *Orange*, was an undeniable inſtance of the inſufficiency of their moſt refin'd Policy, and prov'd in Effect the moſt forcible motive for in-

inveſting the Heroick Prince with the Dignities and Honours they had ſo buſily with-held from him.

This made the People to be ſenſible of the Error of their Miniſters, in revolting from the Family of *Orange*, which alone could cover 'em from the Inſolencies of their Neighbours. Then they knew not what Attonement to make for their Loud Ingratitude. They thought no poſſible Honours too high, nor no Services too good for an Expiation. The ſenſe of his barbarous uſage inſpir'd them with a generous Compaſſion, and a bluſhing Eagerneſs to expiate the unaccountable Crime. The Lowneſs of their deſperate condition, occaſion'd thro the Want of his Conduct, made 'em highly ſenſible of his Influence and Merit: For 'tis the ſenſe of Want that en-

enhances the Value of Enjoyment. This Riveted him deeper in their Affections, and eſtabliſh'd to him a more inviolable Throne in their hearts, than if he had continued inveſted with the Honours of his Family, from the hour of his birth to that day, without oppoſition or diſturbance.

Thus by the direction of the Omnipotent Hand, all things conſpir'd for his Good; but nothing ſo ſignally advanc'd his Intereſt as the very Plots and Intrigues of his Enemies. Had they been ſtill, and quiet, or leſs active in oppoſing him, he had miſs'd the Opportunity of recommending himſelf more effectually to his People, and placing his Merit and unſullied Glory beyond the Reach of Envy and Malice.

The

The *Dewits* advanc'd his intereſt by oppoſing him, much more than if they had acted in concert. All the Meaſures they took to depreſs him, ſerv'd only to bouy him up, and confound themſelves; to haſten their own ruine, and lay the ground work of his future Glory. Their Barbarity begat Pity and Compaſſion, and ſtirr'd up the Natural Inclination of the People to protect injur'd *I*nnocence. But above all the Pinching Extremity they were reduc'd to, till he reſcu'd 'em, did at once inflame their minds with an inviolable regard to their Glorious Deliverer, and a Juſt *I*ndignation for the Miſcarriges of their *I*nſolent Rulers. All their Policy could not have invented a happyer turn for his affairs; and perhaps their Aſſiſtance

ance or Service might have been as fatal, as their oppoſition was Fortunate.

Thus Providence triumph'd o'er the Prudence, Policy and Conduct of the Wiſeſt Miniſters of State. The moſt experienc'd Pilots could not avoid ſplitting upon Rocks, when they ſteer'd their courſe in oppoſition to the will of Heaven. Here Providence did not ſhare the Glorious Victory with Men. No human means were employ'd or thought of; neither the Prince nor his Friends were endeavouring any alteration, when, all of a ſudden, kind Providence order'd ſuch a Conjunction of affairs, as cruſh'd his Enemies, and made way for his exaltation.

Moreover, the hand of Providence was as Viſible in overruling

ling the designs of his forreing Enemies, as those of his domestick Foes. The King of *France*, who at that time threaten'd ruine to him and his Country, contributed as much to his greatness as the *De-wits*. 'Tis true his intentions were not pointed that way; he was very far from designing good to the Family of *Orange*. On the contrary he had encourag'd the *De-wits*, and egg'd them up to their utmost Rigor. 'Twas thro his persuasion that they broke their standing Army, and neglected their frontier Garisons; and bended all their thoughts upon encreasing the Naval Force, in order to rival the Trade of *England*, and obviate the Greatness of our Young Prince; whose Achievements they fear'd might be conformable to those of his Ancestors

ceſtors, at the head of a Land Force. He knew too Well that the ſafety of that Country depended on the fate of the Family of *Orange*; and therefore imagin'd to find his account in perſuading them to depreſs the only remaining branch.

Accordingly, when he thought the buſineſs was ripe, when they had weaken'd their Land Force ſufficiently, and remov'd all means of defence upon that ſide; when the Young Prince was ſtrip'd of his Hereditary Honours, diſcourag'd by an overruling Faction, and deſtitute of all means of Relieving himſelf or his Country; He then embrac'd the opportunity of invading the Country, and attacking them on their defenceleſs ſide; and in a ſhort time poſſeſs'd himſelf of the greateſt

Num-

Number of their Towns. The handful of Soldiers they had left was not fit to reſiſt ſuch a Rapid and Powerful incurſion; nay there was ſcarce any ſhew of oppoſition, till our *Hero* appear'd for their Deliverance, and reſtor'd 'em to their former Power and Splendor.

This violent and ſucceſsful incurſion had no other effect, than to convince the People of their blindneſs and folly in rejecting the Patronage of the houſe of *Orange*. It gave 'em a ſenſible Demonſtration of the unjuſtneſs of their former Meaſures, and the abſolute Neceſſity they were under of making their addreſs to the Prince, or elſe to Periſh without him. Accordingly he aſſum'd the Station of his Anceſtors, appear'd at the head of their ſorry Army, and reſcu'd em from Imminent Bondage

and

and Slavery. Poſterity will ſcarce credit the Relations of that Wonderful Deliverance; nor can all the Records of time paſt match it with a parallel. The force of the Enemy was great, and well diſciplin'd; and his own was at once infinitely deficient in Number, and the knowledge of Military Affairs. His oppoſite was a Prince expert both in Council and War, and he himſelf was Young and Deſtitute of wiſe directors. But no juncture of Circumſtances is able to withſtand the Will of Heaven.

Thus we ſee how Inſtrumental *Lewis* the 14th was in exalting our Young Prince, tho' contrary to his ows deſigns. His overrunning the Republick, did at once diſcover to the People their Error, and furniſh the Prince with an opportunity of

of Signaliſing his Valour and Conduct. It diſclos'd the true ſource of all their Evils, in ſtripping him of his Juſt Rights; and pointed out the only poſſible means of their Reſtoration in doing Juſtice to the the Family that founded their State.

The caſe is ſo plain, that it needs no Application. We can make no doubt but that it was the work of Divine Providence. To overrule the oppoſite deſigns of a Politick and Powerful Enemy, ſo as to make 'em ſerviceable to the contrary intereſt, is a thing unexplicable without the Aſſiſtance of Heaven; eſpecially conſidering that the Circumſtances of the thing are ſo ſingular and uncouth, as place it beyond the reach of all Human Probability.

CHAP. III.

A Brief Recapitulation of the Remarkable Providences attending him from the year one Thousand Six Hundred and Seventy two, till the beginning of this happy Revolution in England.

HAving thus accompany'd his Highness to his first appearance at the head of his Army, let us now attend him into the Field; which was the scene of all his Memorable Actions till the conclusion of the Peace at *Nimeguen*. Here We shall meet with very surprising and unaccountable Events, all conducing to his

his ſafety and Glory; which can only be attributed to the peculiar care of the Almighty.

The firſt ſtep of his valour and conduct was preſerving of *Nienkop*, and repulſing his Numerous Enemies without any Proportionable force to back him. Nor was his own Preſence and Perſonal Valour the only means of obtaining Victories; but the very Opinion and hopes the People had conceived of him, animated 'em with Courage and Reſolution to engage in Attempts, that otherwiſe they would have trembled to think of. Two hundred Citizens, and an hundred Gariſon Soldiers, with the Aſſiſtance of ſome Women and Children, repuls'd Five Thouſand *French* twice from before the Walls of *Aerdenburg*; ſlew a great many, and took five hundred Priſoners.

The Town of *Groning* did the like, when beſieg'd by 20 or 30000 Men. 'Twas the Confidence they put in his Highneſs, and the warmth they were inſpir'd with upon ſeeing a Young Prince Valiantly undertake their relief, that mov'd 'em to ſuch unwonted Bravery.

His ſingular Courage and Conduct before Woerden, and his unexpected ſucceſs, were Viſible Proofs to the Enemy of his Invincible Genius. His tedious and almoſt Impracticable March towards the Country of Leige, in the very depth of Winter, along very bad ways and in an Enemies Country, together with the wonderful ſucceſs attending it, do at once Proclaim his Reſolution and Conduct, and the care of Heaven in guarding him thro' all Dangers.

The

The ſudden Rain and Thaw that oblig'd Luxembourg to retire to *Utrecht*, was a ſingular evidence of Heaven's Intereſſing it ſelf in the Quarrel. His Miraculous ſucceſs before *Coeverden*, his taking of *Naerden*, his Remarkable Atchi-vments at the ſeige of *Bonne*, and his wiſe conduct of his own and the Imperial Armys, when joyn'd in one under his Command, were ſufficient motives to oblige both the *French* and *Munſterians* to abandon all their conqueſts in the united Provinces.

All theſe wonderful exploits confirm'd the Opinion his People had of his Valour and Conduct; and Recommended him to all the Neighbouring Princes as a qualifyed General for heading their Joynt Forces againſt the Common Enemy. Thus Providence ſe-

cretly laid the Foundation of his Future Glory, and by degrees advanc'd him to the poſt of *Europe's* Deliverer.

The Bloody Battel of *Seneffe* will for ever eternize his Memory. He encounter'd the greateſt General then in the World, who thought it a Glory not to be overcome by him. When his Men were Diſpirited and Defeated, he rally'd and animated 'em with ſuch Freſh Vigor, as in a manner to ſnatch the Victory out of the hands of expeperienc'd Veterans. His bravery was matchleſs, and his diligence Indefatigable. He charg'd ſeveral times at the head of Freſh Squadrons. He expos'd himſelf to extream dangers on all occaſions; and acted nothing like a Young Prince, ſave that of expoſing his Perſon too much. He fought with the

the conduct of an Old General and the courage of a *Ceſar*. He was ſo Diligent and active, that his Enemies ſaid of him, that tho' the Prince of *Conde* ſhould multiply himſelf, he would meet the Prince of *Orange* every were.

But the Almighty had ſome further deſign for him; he ſuffer'd him not to fall, when ſurrounded with danger on all hands. The Treachery, Cowardice and Ignorance of his unexperienc'd Men, added to the Power, Valour and conduct of his Enemy, were difficulties that none but he could ſurmount, and nothing but Heaven could enable him to encounter.

He ſcarce ever engag'd in any daring attempt, but his allies or his Souldiers fail'd him. When he attack'd the *Duke* of *Orleans* before *St. Omers*; had his left wing

fought with equal courage to the right, he had reliev'd the Town, if not routed the Enemy. However his greateſt Enemies muſt own that he did all that was poſſible to be done with ſo ſmall an Army, againſt ſuch a puiſſant Enemy, in ſuch a place and Juncture. He charg'd frequently at the head of his Troops, and hazarded his Perſon to that degree that he received two Musket ſhots in his Armour; But the decrees of Heaven reſerv'd him for greater things, and kept his Perſon from being hurt.

The more frequent that his Diſappointments were, the more eminent the dangers that ſurrounded him, the more puiſſant the Enemy that oppos'd his juſt deſigns, the more did Heaven Signaliſe its care of his Perſon, and his own Invincible Valour and Courage.

Tho'

Tho' all the Circumſtances of War were favourable to his Enemy, and formidable to his own party, he relented not in his Vigorous Proſecution. While he confided in the merit of a good cauſe, and the Aſſiſtance of Heaven, it was not in his Nature to be daunted by all the Obſtacles that Human Wit and Power could throw in his way.

The Glorious Victory he obtain'd over *Luxembourg* and his rampant Army, at *St. Denis*; is a ſignal Inſtance of his diſtinguiſhing Conduct and Valour, and the Watchfulneſs of Divine Providence over him. Had not my Lord *Overkirk* Interpos'd between him and the Captain that was running full tilt upon his ſacred Perſon, he had fallen in the Field; 'Twas doubtleſs the Divine Providence that provided ſo ſeaſonably for his ſafe-

ty.

ty. And that Noble Lord who was a Inſtrument in the hand of Heaven for ſaving his ineſtimable Life, is juſtly entitled to all the Laurels of Valour and Honour.

The rich preſent he receiv'd of the States of *Holland*, and the large ſhare he enjoys of his Prince's Favour, are ſuitable returns for ſuch a remarkable piece of Service. No acknowledgements are too ſmall for ſo great an Action; that prevented the fatal ſtroak to *Europe's* Liberties, and reſcu d their great Deliverer.

After all the toyls and Labours of a Bloody and Dangerous War, the Almighty Crown'd his undertakings with an Honourable Peace; and gave him the Opportunity of preſenting the World with as ſignal Inſtances of Wiſdom, and Prudence, in the Conduct of Civil

Affairs

Affairs, as he had formerly given in a Military Capacity. His Moderation and Temper was ſo ſweet and engaging, that no Diſſenſions could ſtand againſt him. He no ſooner appear'd in the Aſſembly of the States of *Zealand* at *Middle-Burg*, but their conteſts were laid aſleep. The differences between the old and new Magiſtrates in *Friezland*, were come to that height, that neither the Governour of *Friezland* nor his Mother could accomodate them; But upon the very firſt arrival of his Highneſſes Commiſſioners, all their heats vaniſh'd, and the whole Province was ſoon reſtor'd to its former Unity and Love. He knew ſo well how to mix Sweetneſs and Moderation with Majeſty and Awe, that he was not leſs happy in conquering Domeſtic Jarrs, than in

in Vanquiſhing his Forreign Foes.

Beſides, he had all along diſcover'd ſo much unfeign'd Affection to his People, ſuch a tender regard to their ſafety and Intereſts; that no differing parties could deny to refer all their quarrels to his deciſion. He had given both them and all the World the moſt convincing proofs of his untainted Zeal for his Country, the True Religion, and the Publick Good. For in the loweſt Ebb of his Fortune, the repeated and inſulting affronts of an ungrateful Country, could not provoke him to oppoſe their Intereſt. All the Ample and Magnificent promiſes of two Mighty Kings, together with the proſpect of recovering his Patrimonial Eſtate, could not tempt him to aceept of Grandeur, at the

expence

expence of the Liberty and Priviledges of his Country. He never made War for retrieving his own Intereſt, but for that of his Country. In Treaties of Peace, he never inſiſted upon Articles for redreſſing his own wrongs; But with an unexampled Generoſity quitted his own pretenſions, and preferr'd the Neceſſities of his Country, to the moſt juſt demands of Reparration for the Hoſtilities committed upon his own proper Demeans and Territories. Such high engagements could not fail of recommending him to the hearts of his People, and poſſeſs him of their deepeſt affections. The Divine care was ſo watchful over him, that every ſtep he mov'd, both in a Civil and Military Capacity, were like ſo many wedges to ſecure his right, and annoy his Enemies.

Were

Were I to amaſs all the various and happy Inſtances, that might fall within the compaſs of this Chapter, I ſhould make a Volume of it alone. But having propos'd only to touch at theſe, as a neceſſary Introduction to the following heads, I ſhall wave all further Examples, and only ſtay to remind you of one Grand turn of Providence, that in a great meaſure laid the Foundation of his preſent Grandeur, and open'd a Door to *Europe*'s Delivery. That is, his Marriage to the Preſumptive Heireſs of the Brittiſh Crowns. This was the Key of all our other mercies; without this all our hopes had prov'd abortive, we in this *Iſland* had continued under Slavery and Bondage, and all *Europe* had been left for a Prey to an Ambitious Enemy. But kind Heaven

ven projected a means for our Delivery and his Exaltation. It rewarded all his Vertuous and Noble Actions for the ſake of Religion and Liberty, with the beſt Princeſs in the World, the moſt Beautiful Lady, the moſt Vertuous, moſt Accompliſh'd, nay, the very beſt of Women, the tendereſt Wife, the wiſeſt and ſweeteſt Conſort, Prudent and Knowing beyond the Meaſures of her Sex, Condeſcending and Eaſy in her temper, Engaging to all, and Devout beyond the Capacity of a fallen Race.

Nor did ſhe only bleſs him with Domeſtick Happineſs of all kinds, but ſecur'd to him the poſſeſſion of the Crown that Heaven deſign'd for his Recompence. She was an early Pledge of the Glorious reward, that his Magnanimous

mous and Indefatigable diligence for the good of *Chriſtendom*, had largely merited. Her acceſſion to his Bed was the moſt fatal ſtroak to his Enemy, and gave the moſt promiſing Proſpect to himſelf, of any thing that could have happen'd. It touch'd the Monarch of *France* more ſenſibly than the loſs of all his Conqueſts in the *Netherlands*. It inſpir'd all the votaries of Religion with Hope and Joy. They then foreſaw the downfall of Tyranny and Perſecution; as if ſome Prophetick Inſtinct had given 'em to know, that he and his Religious Princeſs ſhould one Day become their Glorious and Wellcome Deliverers.

'Tis true, King *Charles* her Uncle, and her own Father the Duke of *York*, could not but ſee that this happy Marriage would one Day

Day prove fatal to their *Designs*; yet Heaven influenc'd their Hearts to countenance and encourage it. Tho their Ally the *French King* solicited 'em to the contrary, yet nothing could prevail where Heavens all-controuling Hand interpos'd.

The Magnificent Reception, and the applauding Acclamations of Joy that attended him and his Royal Bride, upon his Return to the *Hague*, are undeniable Proofs of the Hopes his People had conceiv'd from so happy and powerful an Alliance. Nor did the Effect prove unsuitable to their Expectations; for the Alarm it Gave to the *French Monarch*, was such, that he presently sued for a Peace; which accordingly was concluded some time after at *Nimeguen*.

But above all, the moſt Conſiderable, and Happieſt Reſult of that Alliance, was our Glorious Revolution in *England*, which I'll briefly touch at in the Enſuing Chapter.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

A Short Review of the Wonderful Turns of Providence attending our Gracious Sovereign from the beginning of the late Happy Revolution in England, *till the Year of our Lord* One Thousand Six Hundred and Ninety Three.

IF we consult all the Periods of Time past, and survey all the Records of Divine Providence, from the World's Infancy to this day, we shall not meet with any thing so *surprising*, and unaccount-

able, as our late happy Revolution in *England*. The whole Scene is Stupendious and Wonderful; the Springs and Secret Cauſes, ſo hidden and unthought of; the Turns of Providence ſo aſtoniſhing and unexpected, that no Revolution in the World could ever pretend to the like.

The Alteration it deſign'd, was ſo important, and the Succeſs of the Attempt, of ſo Great and Univerſal Conſequence, that all the Crown'd Heads in *Europe* were engag'd in it. 'Twas not only the deſire and prayer of the oppreſſed Subjects of *Britain*, but the importuning Requeſts of almoſt all the Sovereigns in *Europe*, that was needful to forward ſuch a Noble Undertaking. Accordingly, the Immortal *Hero* that Atchiev'd it, was earneſtly ſolicited by all his Neigh-

Neighbouring Princes, and importun'd by the humble addreſſes of Britiſh Subjects, before he would entertain any thoughts of the Exploit. At length when overcome by their repeated Intreaties, he enter'd upon the Noble Work; but the Circumſtances he was then in, and the general poſture of affairs of *Europe* at that time, were ſo unfavourable and diſcouraging, that no undertaking of that Nature could have promis'd it ſelf ſucceſs, without the Aſſiſtance of Heaven: and the happy event did ſufficiently declare what power it was that eſpous'd his intereſt, and how needful the Omnipotent help was in ſuch a juncture.

'Tis wonderful how ſuch an unexpected event came to paſs with ſo little noiſe or buſtle, and far leſs Blood; how ſuch a great

and ſudden alteration was effected, without cauſing greater Ferments. How the Councils and contrivances of his Enemies were ſo over-rul'd, that inſtead of making head againſt him, they Facilitated the Interprife, and acted as if employed in forwarding the Noble Expedition. When his enemies were ſo blinded as to contrive their own Ruine and Project his advancement; 'tis an unexceptionable evidence, that the whole work was form'd, carried on, and compleated by the particular direction of an Omnipotent Being. For 'tis he alone that can accompliſh things by an oppoſite Power, that can oblige the Enemies of Religion and Goodneſs to be Uſeful and Serviceable to the Intereſt, that they oppoſe. He has the Hearts of Men at his command, and can

ſway

ſway 'em whither he liſteth. He has promis'd that no deſign form'd againſt *Zion* ſhall proſper, and in conformity to his unerring word, we ſee how wonderfully he over-awed the Councils of Wicked Men, pointed at her deſtruction.

I hope none will be ſo hardy as to deny that this Glorious Expedition was deſign'd, and undertaken for the ſecurity of the Proteſtant Religion, and the Liberties of its Profeſſors; for the overthrow of *Antichriſt*'s Kingdom, and the eſtabliſhment of our Lord's. Yet *Antichriſt* himſelf was acceſſory to it; he encourag'd the deſign, and employ'd all his Intereſt with the Houſe of *Auſtria* to abet and aſſiſt his Highneſs; and after his happy acceſſion to the Crown of *England*, was the Author of that ſtrong con-

federacy betwixt him and his allies, that has now procur'd a Solid Peace and tranquillity to all *Europe*.

'Twas he that first waken'd the *Roman Catholick Princes* out of their Lethargy, and engag'd 'em to joyn with our *Hero* in the common defence of Liberty and Property, upon which the *French Monarch* had so unjustly incroach'd. He promoted all the attempts of dividing *England* from the *French* Interest, tho' at the expence of dismounting a Prince of his own Religion, and placing a Protestant upon the throne.

The unfortunate Prince that then wore the Crown was votary to the Pope, and addicted to his Religion, and was in a fair way of establishing the Papal Hierarchy in *England* and triumphing o'er

o'er the *Northern Hereſie*: Yet ſuch was the conduct of Providence, that the Pope himſelf and the moſt Zealous Princes of the Popiſh Communion, ſided with the Proteſtant Intereſt, and concur'd at once to the ſuppreſſion of him and their own Religion.

'Twas the Pope and the reſt of the Roman Princes, and particularly the *Spaniards*, that furniſh'd the Neceſſary Intelligence for managing the great undertaking. They employ'd ſeveral Prieſts devoted to their Intereſt to fiſh out the ſecrets of the Frenchified *Cabal* at *K. James's* Court; who communicated the ſame from time to time to the late *Spaniſh Ambaſſador*. And he again to the Prince and his allies. To whoſe ſecret advice thus obtain'd (next to God Almighty) we owe all the

Satis-

Satisfactory Light we have had into the dark intrigue of the pretended Prince of Wales, which above all things gave the laſt and moſt powerful impulſe to thoſe motions, that accompliſh'd our late happy and Wonderful Revolution.

Here 'tis not improper to obſerve what Influence the impoſture of the Prince of Wales had upon this undertaking. K. *James* and his Popiſh Councellors agree'd upon this Method of preventing the Princes ſucceſſion to the Britiſh Crowns, by a ſuppoſititious heir, whom they deſign'd to educate in the Popiſh Religion. Well, what was the turn of Providence upon this emergent? 'Twas the only forcible call to perſwade the Prince to vindicate his own right, and redeem the People from Imminent Popery and Slavery. They were

ſo

ſo far from expelling him from his hereditary throne, by this intrigue, that on the contrary it haſten'd his acceſſion, and remov'd all the obſtacles that ſtood in his way. They united the Intereſt of the Prince with that of the People, by treating him after the ſame injurious manner with his own Subjects.

Nor was this the only Intrigue of the Enemies that promoted the expedition, but almoſt all their actions, tho' pointed at his ruin, concurr'd to meet his Noble Endeavours, and Crown his Glorious Interpriſe, with a bleſſed ſucceſs beyond all Expectation.

I have already obſerv'd that the Enemies of our Religion acted a very friendly part in encouraging the expedition; and have likewiſe taken occaſion to remark, that the greateſt Bullwark *K. James* could invent

invent againſt him, was beneficial to the undertaking. This methinks were ſufficient to prove that 'twas the Omnipotent hand that directed 'em to act contrary to their own deſigns, renvers'd the whole order of their beſt contrivances, and pointed them the contrary way. But to continue the parallel a little further, ſuffer me to take a General ſurvey of all the actions of that Infatuated Prince, which will diſcover the conduct of the Almighty in making them all to further and advance the Glorious deſign.

His Principal aim was to gratify his Bigotry, by depreſſing the Proteſtant and encouraging the Popiſh Religion. This he had too great opportunities to accompliſh but (thanks be to God) he made but ill uſe of 'em. Inſtead of liſtening

ſtening to the Remonſtrances of the Pope and the other Popiſh Princes, he joyn'd Iſſue with the Court of *France*; which diſoblig'd all his Brethren of the Popiſh Communion. He ſuffer'd himſelf to be noos'd and impos'd upon by the *Stratagems* of *Jeſuits* and Prieſts. He was more eaſily Influenc'd by their Councils, than thoſe of Wiſe Statesmen. The fatal event gave him at laſt to know his Error in yielding to their Precipitant Meaſures. They were for levelling all in an Inſtant, and for carrying on the deſign openly and without diſguiſe; they had not patience to keep pace with the Rules of Policy, which would have taught 'em to move but ſlowly, and content themſelves with gradual advances at firſt, and ſo inſenſibly ſteal on, till they had made their point good.

However

However 'twas a happy Circumſtance for theſe nations, that he took ſuch inconſiderate Meaſures, as open'd the Peoples Eyes, and animated them to an early oppoſition. Had he been Maſter of ſo much Temper and Conduct, as his Brother, he had known better how to blind the People, and carry on his work without creating ſo much uneaſineſs. But Divine Providence did ſo order it, that his Zeal was his ruin, his eagerneſs to introduce the Romiſh Religion was a means of ſettling and confirming the Church of *England*.

Had he been leſs eaſy to comply with the Meaſures of the Court of *Fra.* he had not given that umbrage to the other *Catholick Princes*, that mov'd 'em to encourage the Expedition, and aſſiſt a Proteſtant Prince

to

to secure the Religion and Property of a Protestant People. But his Stars were so unfavourable, that all his actions tended to hasten his own destruction, and exalt our *Hero* to the throne he then sate on.

He fill'd all the Offices Civil and Military with Papists, he made open Infringements upon the Civil Rights of Corporations; pretended to an arbitrary power over the Clergy, and endeavour'd by all means to diminish their Priviledges and Immunites. In fine he took all the wrong Measures, and made all the false steps that his Enemies could have wish'd him to take, towards the dethroning himself, and advancing a Martial Prince to wear his Crown.

He pleas'd himself with the vain

vain hopes of enſlaving theſe Nations under the yoak of Popery and Arbitrary Power; He thought he had plotted the deſtruction of the Prince, and prevented his acceſſion to the Crown; But both he and his Sage Councellors ſaw at laſt that they were but tools which an over-ruling Providence made uſe of to ſave and exalt him, whoſe utter Ruine they had really deſign'd; Nay, to elevate him to ſuch a Pinacle of Power and Grandeur, as to enable him to redreſs not only the grievances of Brittain, but thoſe of all *Europe*.

I ſhall only ſtay to preſent you with a few favourable Circumſtances attending this Glorious expedition, that contributed highly to promote it.

I. Upon the firſt news of his Highneſs's deſign, *King James* thought

thought fit to Augment his Army. And for that effect call'd over conſiderable numbers of the *Iriſh Papiſts*; and ſent for all his ſtanding troops in *Scotland*. This gave Ground of jealouſy to his Native Engliſh, and made 'em imagine that he plac'd more Confidence in the *Iriſh* and *Scots*, than in them. Thus he alienated the hearts of the Proteſtants in his Army, and gave 'em ſome Ground to believe the flying reports that had formerly been ſpread about of the deſigns of the *Jeſuits*, and the intrigues of the Prieſts, whom he ſo viſibly favour'd.

II. When the Prince firſt embark'd and had ſet ſail, He was put back by a grievous tempeſt. This in all Human Probability ſeem'd to be a diſmal Circumſtance, and to bode ill luck. Yet the

Good Providence of God turn'd it to his advantage. For he wiſely gave orders, to publiſh in the *Amſterdam* and *Haerlem Couranis* a more tragical than nice account of the loſs and detriment he had ſuſtain'd by the ſtorm. This gave ſuch a Repreſentation of affairs, as if the deſign had been quite baulk'd.

The news met with a very wellcome Reception at the Court of *England*. The *Jeſuits* were very ready to aggravate the matter, and did really believe that the diſaſter was much greater than was reported. This made the Court ſecure, and remov'd all Apprehenſions of any further danger. Their Emiſſaries boaſted openly in the Streets, Coffee-houſes, *&c.* That God had defeated the *Hereticks*; that the noiſe of all the Prince's

mighty

mighty preparations had only given the King a Fair Oppertunity to encreaſe his Army, wherwith he would now make himſelf abſolute. That the Daring Prince ſhould one day ſuffer for ſo bold an attempt, and that the States of *Holland* would be hiſs'd out of the Communion of all Civil Societies, for having preſented the World with an unſufferable Preſident of Countenancing Rebellion, and of Pernicious Conſequence to all Princes.

But 'twas not long e'er their ill grounded ſecurity was ſhaken off. A ſhort time diſcover'd the falſity of their Intelligence, and the folly of the Concluſions they inferr'd from thence. However the accident tended to Facilitate the Interpriſe, by rendring them ſecure, and encouraging them to neglect a poſture of defence.

III. When the Renoun'd Prince and his Forces were happily arriv'd, they landed at *Torbay*. The Cannon was order'd for more conveniency to be be unſhip'd at *Topſham*. The whole Retinue was that time fatigu'd and diſabled with the hardſhips they had undergone in the Voyage. And had ſcarce had time to refreſh themſelves with reſt and land-accomodations. They were but juſt landed and had not yet been joyn'd by any Malcontents from the Country, or the late Kings own Army.

While the Prince and his Men were in this Condition, ſome adviſ'd the King to ſend the *Scots* and *Iriſh* forces, which were come up and joyn'd, and in which he confided moſt, to attack him before he had time to recruit his Men, or

or encreaſe his force by the coming over of the well-affected Nobility, Gentry and Officers. This was certainly the moſt ſeaſonable Advice; which, if follow'd, might have open'd a more Tragical Scene than ſome were aware of. But ſuch was the Over-ruling Providence of God, that he did not hearken to this Advice, but choſe rather to be determin'd by a Council of War. They adviſ'd him not to ſend them by themſelves, for fear of Giving any Umbrage to the *Engliſh*; but to ſtay till he could aſſemble his whole Army, and provide a ſufficient Train of Artillery, Store of Ammunition, *&c.* and be ready to march againſt them in Perſon, and Give them a formal Battle. This Advice he embrac'd and follow'd.

Accordingly his Delay gave the Prince a convenient Opportunity to Refreſh his Men and Horſe, and withal, a very fair occaſion to ſuch as were well affected to him in the Country, and the King's Army, to go over to him. Providence had ſo ſenſible an Influence upon the Councils and Conduct of the Prince's Enemies, that every ſtep they made was to his Advantage.

IV. The Deſpondency and Unſteddineſs of the King, was a great Advantage to the Prince's Deſigns. Had he been fond of ſhewing his Courage or Conduct, he had a fair opportunity of doing it. But thoſe who were willing to ſtand by him, were oblig'd to diſperſe themſelves for want of a Commander to Head 'em. For he withdrew, and at length, actually

ually Deſerted them, which Gave the Laſt Finiſhing Stroke to the mighty and Memorable Revolution that follow'd.

V. The Conduct of the King of *France* in this Juncture, did contribute mightily to the ſucceſs of this Expedition. Tho he was K. *James*'s Only Ally, and an inveterate Enemy to the Prince; tho he is Juſtly accounted a Great Maſter in Politicks, and knows how to adapt fit means for compaſſing his Ends, yet in this matter he was ſo over-rul'd by Divine *Providence*, that even he alſo encourag'd and promoted the Revolution: He concluded, That the King of *England* could not but have Forces enough to keep the Prince and his ſmall Army employ'd for ſome Years. Thus he thought the

Prince would not be able to appear againſt him in *Flanders*, being ſo powerfully diverted in *England*: And accordingly, tho at that time he was in actual War with *Holland*, and had a numerous Army near their Frontiers, yet he forbore to make any Attempt upon them, for fear it ſhould ſcare the Prince and his Forces from ſetting out for *England*; and ſo deprive him of the Advantages he hop'd to reap by that Diverſion.

But he was much miſtaken in his Meaſures, as the Event declared; and in thinking to promote his own Intereſt, concurr'd to lay the Foundation of his Enemies Greatneſs. He concurr'd with all the reſt of *Europe* to dethrone his own Ally, and Inſtall a Prince that was the firſt Spring and Soul of all the oppoſition he met with.

Thus

Thus ye ſee all the ſeveral ſteps of the Prince of *Orange*'s Greateſt Enemies, contributed to the furtherance of his Deſign. Tho they directed 'em by the beſt, ſafeſt and righteſt meaſures of Prudence and Policy againſt him, yet the Providence of the Almighty made 'em ſerve for the means of his Advancement.

By ſuch ſtrange and ſurpriſing Turns of Providence was this Revolution carry'd on, and ſo happily accompliſh'd, that on the 11*th* of *April* following, both Prince and Princeſs were Crowned King and Queen of theſe Nations, to the Great and Inexpreſſible Joy and Satisfaction of all their People, the Terror and Amazement of their Enemies, and the Wonder and Surprize of the whole World.

Be-

Being thus Crown'd, they graced their Thrones with all the Measures of Moderation, Prudence and Conduct, and shar'd so much of the Affection of their People, that all the Kingdom of *England*, excepting a very inconsiderable disarmed Party, did Unanimously range themselves under Their Majesties Government. Indeed the Troubles in *Ireland* and *Scotland* were not so soon overcome.

Ireland was in a manner totally under the Enemy's Power, and provided with such a Disciplin'd Army of Natives, and so well furnish'd with Warlike Necessaries and Officers from *France*, that perhaps it could never boast of the Like. While *Ireland* was in this forlorn condition, it pleas'd Almighty God to animate an Hand-

ful

ful of Men, to withſtand the current that ſwept all before it. They were inconſiderable for all things, but Undaunted Courage and Zeal to their *R*eligion and Ancient Liberties. They ſhut themſelves up within *London-derry*, at a time when they could have little or no Hopes of Relief from *England* or elſewhere; when their Enemies were poſſeſs'd of all the places round 'em, and Rul'd every where with an Univerſal Sway. Tho the Town was meanly Fortified, and worſe provided, they wonderfully held it out againſt a numerous and well-furniſh'd Army, Headed by their *King* himſelf, and ſeveral Noted Officers from *France*. The whole World muſt needs be amaz'd at ſuch an unexpected Turn. That a few *Daring Adventurers* ſhould be able to withſtand

ſtand ſuch a *mighty Force*, and preſerve their Country from becoming an entire prey to the Enemy.

And as Divine Providence did certainly aſſiſt theſe Men with ſomething more than Ordinary, ſo it over-aw'd the Councels of their Enemies, and gave 'em up to be Infatuated. Had they beſieg'd the Town with their whole Army, and employ'd their beſt diſciplin'd Troops to make the attacks, they might eaſily have taken it before any ſuccour had come. Or if they had altogether let it alone; and contented themſelves with only keeping a Blockade before it; then they might have ſpar'd ſome part of their Army for joyning the Rebels in *Scotland*. Which would have been ſuch a Powerful Diverſion to King *William*,

am, that it had been Impracticable for him to ſend any ſuccours that year to the Proteſtants in *Ireland*.

But it ſeems the profound Policy of the Matter was this, that they would make a ſlow and regular ſiege with the worſt Troops, under pretence of teaching 'em the art of War. Thus they drill on, till the Oppertunity of ſending Aſſiſtance to *Scotland* was loſt, and the valour of the Noble Teagues pall'd by a lingering unactive Blockade.

Thus the Divine Providence continued to overrule the Actions and Councels of our *Hero's* Enemies, and to make 'em contribute to the accompliſhment of that great and glorious work it deſign'd by him. And all in ſuch a manner that the finger of God might appea

pear in it with a clearer efficacy, than the Power and Policy of Man.

I cannot omit a remarkable Inſtance, of the divine care towards his Sacred Perſon. Some time after his arrival in *Ireland* he underſtood the Iriſh Army was retir'd over the *Boyn*, and march'd with all ſpeed after them. Being advanc'd near the River he ventur'd to ſtand on the ſide of a Bank within a Musket ſhot of the ford, in order to obſerve the Poſture of his Enemies. Having ſpent ſome time in viewing the Enemy he ſat down on the Ground to refreſh himſelf, but ſhortly after remounted his horſe, and riding gently along, a Bullet graz'd upon the bank of the River, and riſing afterwards glanc'd upon his Majeſty's right ſhoulder, tore off a piece

peice of his Coat, and lightly wounded him. How narrow was this Escape? What a fatal stroak had it given both to these Kingdoms and all *Europe*, had not some Guardian Angel sav'd his Precious Life. In like manner in the siege of *Limmerick*, as his Majesty was riding softly towards *Cromwels Fort*, he was in danger of another fatal stroak; but his Good Angel, by Gods Commandment preserv'd him, and return'd him safe to *England*, loaded with Victory and Triumph.

The next year being 1691, His Majesty went and fac'd the Enemy in *Flanders*. Where the Divine Providence accompany'd and Guarded him from all Evils. But the year 1692 presents us with a more Glorious scene of Action, with a numberless train of Instances

ces of the Divine Care in preſerving his Majeſty tho' encompaſs'd with Dangers, and diſappointing his foes, tho' equip'd with all neceſſary means for compaſſing their wicked ends.

Flanders was fill'd with a Powerful and numerous *French* Army, A Glorious Fleet was prepar'd to ſet out, and invade *England* with 12 or 14000 Men; which was equip'd and got ready before the Confederate Fleets could joyn, in order to oppoſe them. Some part of our Fleet was debauch'd and brib'd, and a violent faction in *England* was ready to joyn with the Invaders; An Aſſaſſination was contriv'd againſt his Majeſty's Perſon, and juſt upon the point of execution. This was the diſmal proſpect we then had; yet God ſo order'd it, that our Gracious Sove-

reign

reign was sav'd, and the Enemies designs prov'd abortive.

One of the Assassines was providentially incited to discover the Hellish Plot; God so mollified his obdurate heart, and brought him to so much remorse and Compunction, as to detect the execrable design. So 'twas the doing of the Almighty that brought it to Light. No Body did so much as dream of any thing, nor did any Humane Art concur to extort the Confession. Had not the Allwise Governour prevented it by a seasonable discovery, it had certainly taken effect, and with one blow cut off the prospect of *Europe*'s Quiet, and the inestimable Life of the Asserter of their Rights.

As the Providence of the Almighty appear'd so signally in Guarding his Royal Head, so 'twas

Viſible in Preventing the intended Invaſion, by ſending Contrary Winds to detain their Fleet in their Harbours, and to hinder the Joining of the *Mediterranean* Squadron with that in the *Channel*. Had they been able to ſet out at the deſigned time, they had ſurpris'd *England*, and taken us at a diſadvantage. But Heaven withſtood their wicked deſigns, and protected our *Hero*'s Cauſe by Judgments from Heaven.

Nor was Providence leſs mindfull of his Intereſt and Safety by Land, than at Sea. It Guarded his Royal Perſon in the fierce and Bloody Action at *Steenkirk*. Tho' he was expos'd to the continual fire, both of the great and ſmall ſhot of the Enemy; and ſaw his valiant Officers fall on all hands, yet his Perſon was untouch'd

'Twere

'Twere an infinite Labour to trace all the ſteps of the Divine Care, which this Glorious ſcene affords us. What I have briefly hinted at, may ſerve to Inflame us with an eager deſire of prying into the remainder, The ſucceeding part of his Life will furniſh us with as Notable examples, as the former. They are freſher in our Memories, and equally require a gratefull Commemoration.

CHAP. V.

A view of the Remarkable Providences attending his Majesty in the year 1693.

THis year was as fertile in Providential Instances, as any of the former. The same Guardian Angel that defended him upon all occasions before, continu'd still to perform its wonted Offices both in regard to the safety of his Person, and the Interest of his Government. It appear'd in defence of his Cause, whether he was absent or present.

The King of *France* promis'd to himself success in Investing *Rhyneburg*, before the Invincible *Hero* could

could reach the Field. But Heaven confuted his vain hopes, by pouring down ſuch exceſſive rains, as retarded his attacks, and gave time to the Troops of *Heſſe* and others to come up and relieve the Town. The Clouds acted the part of an Enemy to him, and oblig'd his Army to retire, after having loſt a Conſiderable Number of Men.

But to leave that, and return to his Majeſty's Perſonal Conduct. So ſoon as he arriv'd he receiv'd Information that *Huy* was in the *French* hands. Either Treachery, Cowardice, or perhaps both, had made it an eaſy prey. He receiv'd likewiſe the news that *Luxemburg* was drawing near to *Liege*. Preſently he diſpatch'd ſeveral Battallions to that place, who got ſafe into it, but with ſome difficulty. This March of *Luxembourg*'s was but a

blind to cover his other designs. For when he saw our Army exhausted by sending succours to *Liege*, and several other detachments besides, he made use of that Opportunity to offer 'em Battel. 'Twas Modestly computed, that the *French* were 35000 Men stronger than the Confederate Army at that time. But this did not scare his Majesty from answering the Challenge.

Accordingly all necessary orders were given for Battel. They charg'd on both sides with Great Vigour, and continued for some hours with undaunted Bravery. The *English* tho' inferior in number push'd on with matchless Courage. All the Confederate Army made such a Vigorous repulse as put their Enemies into a Consternation. For a Considerable time the Confederates had the better, till at length they

they were attack'd by a Reſerve of Freſh Troops, and ſo overpower'd by the Enemy that they were oblig'd to give Ground.

His Majeſty's Conduct and Valour in this Action was unexampl'd, and ſuch as gave his Enemies as formidable a Repreſentation of him, as if he had gain'd the Victory. His Watchfull Care of all his Troops, his indefatigable diligence in conveying himſelf to every place where his preſence was Neceſſary, His Invincible Courage in expoſing himſelf to the Greateſt Dangers, and engaging perſonally in all the Hotteſt Actions; His undaunted Reſolution and Bravery in rallying ſeveral Troops after they began to give way, and keeping the Field till the Enemy had almoſt hemm'd him in on all ſides. Theſe I ſay were the Subjects of their admiration,

and juſtly entitled him to all the Panegyricks that are due to a Triumphant Conqueror.

As his Unparallell'd Courage and Conduct were the Trumpets of his Immortal Praiſe, ſo his Miraculous Eſcapes from imminent and almoſt Inevitable Danger were Viſible Effects of the divine care. No leſs than three ſeveral Musket-ſhots had almoſt ended his Precious Life. The firſt came thro' his Campaign Periwig, and miſs'd him ſo narrowly that the noiſe of it impair'd his ſenſe of hearing for ſome time. Soon after, another came thro' the very ſleeve of his riding Coat, and ſuch was the Divine Goodneſs that it turn'd off, and did not hurt his Sacred Perſon. But a third threaten'd more than any of the other two. It tore off his ſcarf, bearing away the knot and

ſome

ſome part of the Silk. And caus'd a little riſing or ſwelling: but was not allow'd to do any further miſchief. Heaven limited all their Commiſſions, and ſaid to them, *Hither ſhalt thou go, and no further.*

In this action he diſcover'd the higheſt Natural Indowments; that are uſefull to a General; and withall how much he had improv'd 'em by experience and acquir'd Knowledge. Theſe the Almighty Crown'd with Providential Emergents, and gave the World a plain Intimation of his being a favorite at the Court of Heaven. What Greater Bleſſings can the World afford, than to be Belov'd of God and Eſteem'd and Valu'd by Mankind?

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

A view of the Remarkable Providences that attended his Majesty in the year 1694.

IF we take a nice view of what pass'd this Year, we shall meet with a more Tragical Scene, than any that went before. God seem'd to rain down Judgments from Heaven upon us, and acted rather as a provok'd Judge than a Mercifull Father. But the consequences that ensued upon 'em were such as tended to the King's advantage, and his firmer settlement upon the throne. Omnipotency can turn every thing to the Good of those it favours. It can qualify

ſy the bitterneſs of croſs Accidents, and compenſate loſſes with Greater Reparations than their extent demands. We have ſome Memorable Inſtances of this ſort of conduct, in ſeveral diſpenſations of Providence, relating to his Majeſty, within the Circle of this year.

The firſt diſaſter that uſher'd in all the reſt, was a vaſt loſs at Sea. We had ſent a Numerous Squadron of Men of War to the ſtreights. A Great Number of Rich Merchant Men bound for *Turkey* and the *Eaſt-Indies*, took the Opportunity of their Convoy. Our deſign in ſending 'em was to aſſiſt the King of *Spain*, and to Curb the Inſolencies of an Inſulting Enemy, with whom we waged Juſt War. A war that Heaven did Countenance, and aſſiſted both his Majeſty and his Subjects to Proſecute.

Yet

Yet ſo unſearchable and ſurpriſing are the turns of Providence, that God himſelf, under whoſe banner we fought, thought fit to afflict us with the loſs of a great part of this Glorious Fleet. He cover'd the face of the deep with a tempeſtuous roughneſs, and doom'd our ſhips to fall a Sacrifice to the Mercileſs Waves. Our Admiral, and many of his brave Commanders, ſeveral hundreds of the beſt of ourSeamen, a great part of our Treaſure, and as much of our Naval Force, were all Sacrific'd to the Rolling Element,

This Mortification at Sea was follow'd by unlucky Accidents elſewhere. All our great deſigns and Projects for this year prov'd abortive; Our firmeſts hopes and higheſt expextations were balk'd and fuſtrated; Sordid Treachery pre-

prevail'd upon ſome in whom we confided ; others thro' Ignorance were betray'd to ill conduct. In fine, to Sum up all, we were caſt into ſuch Circumſtances as gave us but a diſmal proſpect for any future undertaking.

We attempted an invaſion into *France*, but were ſhamefully repuls'd with the loſs of a brave General, and ſome hundreds of his Men. In *Flanders* all things were at a ſtand ; the two Armies look'd upon one another and did nothing ; only our active *Hero* retook *Huy*, which had been Treacherouſly wreſted out of the confederate hands. In this ſorry condition did we continue for ſome time, and, what was worſe, began to deſpair of a recovery.

But this was not all. Had the deſtroying Angel ſtopp'd her, our Afflicti-

Afflictions had been more ſufferable, and our puniſhment of a meeker nature. But Heaven had more Judgments in ſtore for us. The Whole Magazine of Heaven ſeem'd to contract it ſelf into one fatal ſtroak, and burſt out with ſuch a terrifying thunder clap, as ſhook all *Europe*, and fill'd the World with Conſternation. Great *Mary*, the Darling of Heaven, and the beloved of all the Earth; the Pattern of all vertue, the wonder and example of her Sex, the Guardian Angel of our *Iſland*, and the Life of her People, was ſuddenly transfer'd to a Celeſtial Throne.

Our hopes were fruſtrated and our Meaſures broke; *England* groan'd, and all *Europe* was fill'd with ſorrow and regret, to ſee her ſhining excellencies eclips'd by Death. Merit and worth had ſtamp'd

ſtamp'd ſuch deep impreſſions upon the minds of all mankind, that the Irreparable loſs was not peculiar to *England*, but common to all the World.

She was the Glory of the Age, The ſtandard of Vertue and Goodneſs, the ſupporter of Religion and Liberty, the deliverer of her Native People, the Pillar of the Church of *England*; the Emblem of Majeſty and Grandeur, the Pattern of Humility; the Modeſteſt Maid, the moſt dutiful Daughter, the moſt agreeable Wife, the Sweeteſt Princeſs, the Wiſeſt and Steddyeſt Governeſs, and, in fine, the exact Coppy of Divine Perfections.

She poſſeſs'd all the charms of Nature, a beautiful engaging air, a Modeſt and Sweet Condeſcenſion mix'd with a Majeſty and greatneſs

neſs of Spirit. She had the awful and majeſtick meen of a conquering *Hero*, and temper'd it with all the charms of the ſofter Sex. Her Perſon was ſtately and graceful, her meen both great and modeſt; Her Beauty, which in another had been the Predominant Charm, was the leaſt of her Perfections. To all which ſhe added a ſolid and penetrating mind, a juſtneſs of thought, a Beautiful Expreſſion, an engaging carriage, and Suitable Actions.

She knew how to condeſcend without meanneſs, and to aſſume the Air of Government and Greatneſs without Haughtyneſs or Pride. She had the Courage and Reſolution of a *Hero*, the Prudence and Conduct of a Miniſter of State; No threats of Fortune, or Menaces of Enemies could frighten her into

a mean deſpondency. No ſurpriſal or croſs Event could oblige her to waver in her Counſels, or move doubtfully. Proſperity could not tempt her to ſuppreſs the Modeſty and Humility of her temper, nor could all the Shocks of Adverſity impair the Courage and Greatneſs of her Mind.

In ſhort, his Majeſty's loſs (on this occaſion) was irrepairable, the Kingdom's grief exceeded Meaſure, and the whole World's concern was Inexpreſſible. During the whole circle of this year every thing turn'd to *England*'s diſadvantage, and all the turns of Provinence were ſeemingly diſcouraging. But the Almighty's deſigns are not to be fathom'd by puny mortals, his Counſels are laid in the dark, and no human eye can penetrate into them. When the Death of ſuch

an excellent Queen was attended with unlucky events upon other occaſions, the whole complication was too great a Burthen for an ordinary Spirit to Bear. Had our *Hero* been a Perſon of the Common Level, he had ſunk under the burden, and yielded to the load of Afflictions. But the ſame Power that gave the wound, was ready to Adminiſter healing baums.

No ſooner was the Godlike Princeſs gone, but God put it into the hearts of our Wiſe Repreſentatives to give his Majeſty freſh aſſurances of their Loyalty, Affection, and ſtedfaſtneſs to his Government and Intereſt; Notwithſtanding all the Rubs and Menaces of Fortune. They joyn'd with him in a Common Lamentation for the loſs of his Incomparable Conſort, and Vigorouſly concur'd to ſtiffle all the

bad

bad Conſequences that her departure might occaſion. They gave to the World a laſting Specimen of their Zeal and Honeſty. And open'd their hearts and purſes more liberally upon this occaſion, than perhaps they would have done, if no ſuch fatal accident had happen'd. So wiſely were things turn'd by the Omnipotent hand, that the bittereſt of Afflictions did animate the Britiſh Subjects to aſſiſt their allies, and gratify their Prince with a greater ſubſidy, than ever had been granted before.

The Enemies of our Religion and Liberty thought to find their account in this diſaſter. They imagin'd that the Queen's Death would have renvers'd the Conſtitution of *England*, diſcourag'd the Proteſtants, and alienated the hearts of the People from her ſur-

viving consort. But the Almighty disappointed their Vain Expectations. He made them sensible of the contrary by Visible Effects. The Parliament upon her death made large additions to their yearly taxes, and enabled his Majesty to Augment his forces both by Sea and Land. This annoy'd the Enemy, and strip'd em of their groundless hopes. They saw our *Hero* as Vigorous in the Camp, as diligent and cautious in Council, and more powerful in the Field, than ever he was before. Tho' Heaven had Visited him with Affliction, it did not so depress him, as to become a prey to his Enemies; but on the contrary he shone more brightly, and annoy'd them more sensibly than before. He was thereby render'd more capable to serve the Protestant World, and destroy their Implacable Enemies.

CHAP.

CHAP. VII.

Some thoughts upon the many dangers to which the Person of our Royal Sovereign William *the* IIId *was expos'd, during the siege of Namur, in the year one thousand six hundred and ninety five; together with some considerations upon the manner of his Wonderful Deliverance.*

HIS Majesty having (by Divine Providence) Augmented his forces both by Sea and Land, the rest of his allies were mov'd by his example, and concluded

ded to do the like. So the Army in *Flanders* was that year much more numerous than before. The *French* being ſenſible of the formidable encreaſe, thought it ſafeſt to contract themſelves within their lines, and endeavour by all means poſſible to avoid fighting.

But their Retreat did not oblige his Majeſty to be unactive. He concluded to puſh on the War with all Vigor, and accordingly went and lay down before *Namur*. A place ſo wonderfully fortify'd, ſo admirably equip'd with all the accoutrements of War, that the Generality of the World chriſten'd it, the *Impregnable*.

And indeed it muſt be Granted, that had a Prince of leſs skill in War, leſs Dilgence, Vigor or Reſolution, offer'd to inveſt it, he might have ſhot ſhort of his mark. But our Matchleſs *Hero* was

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a fit Perſon to undertake what all the World beſides thought impoſſible, and to accompliſh what no man ever expected to ſee. Proud *Namur*, ſtrong by nature, improv'd by art, and finiſh'd to the laſt degree; fill'd with the flower of a *French* Army, defended by a Mareſhal of *France*, and equip'd with all the Inſtruments of defence, that the World could afford. Such a Stately Monument of ſtrength muſt fall a Sacrifice to Great *William*'s Victorious Arms. His conquering hand carries all before him. No place of ſtrength, no refuge of defence, tho' Impregnable by others, can ſtand in his way, when he unſheaths his invincible Sword.

Poſterity will be at a loſs to imagine the truth of ſuch a Stupendious Action; to ſee the moſt Romantic Pretenſions of a fabulous *Hero*, outdone by the Authentic

Records of Hiſtory. To ſee ſuch mighty Feats undetaken and finiſh'd before the Eyes of the World, which were ever look'd upon as the brats of Imagination, entitled to no further Priviledge than that of mere poſſibility.

While this important ſiege was carry'd on, his Majeſty was obſerv'd to be continually in action, riding from Squadron to Battallion, and from Place to Place, giving in Perſon all the neceſſary Orders, wiſely contriving expedients for the ſafety of his Men, and the furtherance of the work. Oft-times he advanc'd ſo near the Town and Caſtle, that ſeveral were kill'd about him, not far from his Royal Perſon, even by the ſmall ſhot. The beſieged defended the place with Courage and Vigor, but his Majeſty was ſtill the more eager

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in puſhing on the attacks. He was fond of gathering his Laurels in the Field of evident danger. He plac'd all the Glory and Sweetneſs of Enjoyment on the bottom of a difficult and hazardous acqueſt. He expos'd his Sacred Perſon more than any Sentinel in the Army, and yet the Almighty's Protection brought him off ſafe.

'Tis true his frequent appearance at the moſt dangerous attacks, was in ſome meaſure neceſſary to promote the work. His Preſence animated both Generals, Inferior Officers, and the Soldiers themſelves to a Vigorous aſſault, and inſpir'd 'em with a firm Reſolution of following their Invincible Commander; of gaining the place, or digging their Graves before its walls. Such unexampled Bravery and Conduct was needful for compaſſing

passing so difficult a task. And the success of the attempt sufficiently Justify'd the undertaking, that the World thought he had enter'd upon in vain.

This was the wonderful conduct of our Prince, during the whole Progress of the work. Let us now consider what the Conduct of Providence was, with regard to his Person. All the wit of man cannot devise any rational account of his many escapes from evident danger, unless they refer 'em to the care of the Almighty. When surrounded with bullets, when smoak cover'd the Air, and the Eternal *Din* of *Canons* was buzzing in his Ears, he never alter'd his pace, nor offer'd to retire. His stout adherents that attended him fell at his side, and universal slaughter was the only entertainment of his Eyes, yet he himself

himſelf was not hurt nor wounded. How Miraculous are all the ſteps of Divine Providence, that ſecur'd him upon the Precipice of Death, and reſcu'd him from dangers that were ſeemingly unavoidable!

'Twere eaſy to run over the Journal of the ſiege, and amaſs an Infinite Number of Inſtances of Wonderful Deliverances. The long and tedious ſiege of the Town will furniſh us with a great many. And after it was ſurrendred, the attacks upon the Caſtle were attended with as Great, if not Greater Dangers, that approach'd very near to his Royal Perſon. But I forbear to repeat what all the World is ſufficiently inform'd in, it being ſufficient for my preſent deſign to have ſhewn in General that the Divine Care was very watchful over him, during the whole courſe of the Siege.

CHAP.

CHAP. VIII.

A view of the Remarkable Providences attending his Majesty from the year one thousand six hundred and ninety five, till the Happy Conclusion of the Peace at Reswick.

HIS Majesty return'd from *Namur* crown'd with the Laurels of Triumph, and applauded by all his affectionate subjects. They receiv'd him with Loud acclamations of Joy, and humbly addres's'd him with the due tribute of Praise and Gratitude. They sent up to Heaven their Joyful

ful thanks for the ſafety of his Perſon, and in publick thanksgivings at once expreſs'd their ſenſe of the Divine Goodneſs that protected him, and of the mighty exploits he had undertaken and acted for them.

When his ſecret Enemies ſaw that no forreign force was able to ſubdue him, they then betook themſelves to ſecret Machinations at home. They had try'd all methods and means to accompliſh his ruine; but finding all their endeavours had prov'd Abortive and Ineffectual, they fell upon the moſt Helliſh Contrivance that ever enter'd into the mind of Man. What words are fit to expreſs it! What tongue can have the Courage to utter ſuch a deteſtable plot! It pollutes the lips to name it. It ſavours ſo rank of Hell, that none but Devils are

fit

fit to diſcourſe of it. A Barbarity unexampled among *Africans*; more Savage than that of the wildeſt beaſts of prey; If ye except the Devils, I believe it may be modeſtly affirm'd, the whole circle of the Creation would ſtare and be affraid of ſuch an unpreſidented piece of Wickedneſs. A Barbarous and Bloody Aſſaſſination of a *Hero*, that never turn'd his back in the Field of Battel, that gave all his Enemies the faireſt opportunities of doing themſelves Juſtice in the view of the World.

But I ſtay too long on ſuch an exalted piece of Wickedneſs; 'tis not fit to taint my pen with ſuch nauſeous matters; Eſpecially ſince the fuller account of theſe Barbarous deſigns, and the manner of their being prevented, is delivered by others, who have wrote

wrote purpoſely upon that Subject. Beſides, the ſucceeding Chapter contains ſome Thoughts upon that Subject.

I ſhall therefore only take occaſion to ſay, that if ever the Divine Providence diſplay'd it ſelf Viſibly in favours of a Mortal Man, 'twas in this Inſtance. His Deliverance was ſo Miraculous, the diſcovery ſo unaccountable and unexpected, and all the Periods of the horrid ſtory ſo ſurpriſing and frightful, that none but the allſeeing Eye could have brought it to Light, and none but the Omnipotent Power could have Guarded his Sacred Perſon from the violent hands of the Bloody Aſſaſſines.

But to Return. This was not all the Subſtance of the Enemies hopes. The Aſſaſſination they de-

depended much upon; but they had ſtill another ſtring to their Bow. If they could not compaſs his Death by Bloody Violence, they hop'd to undermine him another way. The Coin of the Nation was diminiſh'd and adulterated; Clipping and Coining had prevail'd ſo much, that ſcarce any Money was to be ſeen, but what was either falſe or clipp'd. This had ſuch an Influence upon our Mercats at home, that every thing roſe to an exceſſive rate. Proviſions and all other Utenſils were Prodigiouſly Over-rated. The Poor People were reduc'd to a moſt deplorable Condition. Which in any other Country would have created Mutinies and Uproars. And our Enemies were very active in puſhing on the mob to ſuch enormous actions. But

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ſuch was the Influence of Divine Providence, ſuch was the Wiſdom and Moderation of our Prince, ſuch was the Caution, Diligence and Diſpatch of the Parliament, that the bad Conſequences we ſo much fear'd were ſpeedily prevented.

Tho' the Enemies of the Government had Inflam'd the Diſtemper to ſuch a height, that our funds prov'd deficient, a ſtop was put to our Trade, our Credit was almoſt extinguiſh'd; The Bank and Exchequer could obtain no Truſt. In a word, there was ſuch an unlucky Combination of Circumſtances, that poſterity will not be able to Divine, how our Governour could ſteer ſo ſteddily, or our People ſuffer with ſo much Patience and Chearfulneſs.

We were then engag'd in an expenſive War, and yet had ſcarce Money to buy bread for our teeth; Money is the Sinews of War, and we were reduc'd to that Ebb that there was none to be met with. Yet all this did not Diſcourage his Majeſty, nor alienate the hearts of his People. The Repreſentatives aſſembled in Parliament reſolved Notwithſtanding all their preſent Difficulties to puſh on the War with all poſſible Vigor, to retrieve the Credit of their funds by making good their deficiencies, to rectifie the ſtate of the Coin, and mint their Money a-freſh. This was a Noble Reſolution worthy of ſuch Gallant Senators, and only fit to be undertaken under the Auſpicious Reign of Great *William*.

'Twas he who alone can aſſwage the unruly waves of a Tempeſtuous Sea,

Sea, that govern'd the minds and hearts of the People, and diſpos'd the fluctuating Mob to a ſteddy Patience in ſuch a Juncture; That directed our Senators to ſuch wiſe and Prudent Methods; and at once diſappointed both our own fears, and our Enemies Hopes.

This was the Conduct of Divine Providence at home. Let us now ſtir abroad, and conſider the poſture of affairs there. His Majeſty was detain'd longer this year in *England*, than uſually, by Reaſon of the Horrid Plot. When he arriv'd in *Holland*, he was accoaſted with a Rumor of a Peace; and *Callier* was actually in *Holland* courting them for it. This did not tempt him to unbend his Reſolution, or relent in a Vigorous Proſecution of the War: but he went ſtraight for *Flanders*, and

heedleſs of their propoſals of Peace, plac'd himſelf at the head of his Army.

There he watch'd the motions of his Enemies, and courted them to fight. But finding their deſign was to be on the defenſive hand, and meeting with no Opportunity of obliging them to battel, he left the Camp, and retir'd to Loo; and entertain'd himſelf, with the diverſions of the Place, for ſome time. He gave his Enemies to know, that tho' the whole burden of the War lay on his ſhoulders, tho' he had been diſturb'd and perplex'd at home, both by the Barbarity of Aſſaſſines, and the Croſs Circumſtances of his People; yet had both leiſure and repoſe of mind, to enjoy the diverſions of a Country Retirement. After ſome time he left Loo, and came for *England*.

When

When he return'd to *England*, he acquainted his Lords and Commons Aſſembled in Parliament, that tho' a Peace was offer'd 'em, it was the ſafeſt way to make it with Sword in hand. His People were willing to comply with his advice, and accordingly reſolv'd to Proſecute the War with the ſame Vigor and ſtrength as before. They were not ſo fooliſh, as to be duckoy'd by a blind, or tempted to Remiſsneſs by an offer of that Nature. They ſcorn'd to ſneak and beg for a Peace, while they had ſuch honourable terms to inſiſt upon. And therefore thought it convenient to ſtand to their pretenſions, till their Enemy was diſpos'd to anſwer their demands. The Wiſdom of which Reſolution was ſufficiently Juſtifyed, by the ſucceſs of the Negotiation of *Reſwick*.

Theſe were the Circumſtances of the Land Affairs. Let us now launch into the Sea, and conſider the motions and Projects that belong'd to that Scene.

We fitted out a Squadron to cruiſe on the *French* Coaſt, which not only terrified the Inhabitants of *France*, but did good Service to our Merchants, by retaking an *Eaſt-India* Sh p, which the *French* were carrying into their own Harbours; And making repriſals upon their Ships bound home from *New-Found-Land*, Laden with the Spoyls of our Engliſh Fiſhing.

Upon the whole. Tho' our Circumſtances were diſmal at home, by Reaſon of a Barbarous Club of Aſſaſſines, and the wretched ſtate of our Coin; yet it pleas'd the Almighty God ſo to Regulate the

the ſucceſs of our Forreign adventures that the Enemy Courted for a Peace; And offer'd ſuch Honourable Terms as met with a Reception.

Great *William* would not clap up a Peace without ſeeing his Allies ſatisfied: tho' they offer'd to redreſs his Perſonal Injuries, he Generoſly Rejected the Propoſal; and requir'd that Juſtice ſhould at once be done to all *Europe*, before he'd put up his Sword. 'Twas not for himſelf, but the Good of *Chriſtendom* that he engag'd in the War.

Accordingly, all the ſeveral Allies ſent Ambaſſadors to *Reſwick*, to propoſe their Reſpective Grievances, and receive ſuitable Satisfaction. As for himſelf. He would not ſuffer that his own perſonal demands ſhould diſturb the

Treaty, but adjusted all his private concerns in a few Interviews betwixt my Lord *Port-Land* and Mareshal *Boufflers*. And then gave the Allies to know, that he waited only to see Justice done to them, having receiv'd Satisfaction for his private Concerns.

Thus by the Blessing of the Almighty, a Glorious and Honourable Peace was concluded at *Reswick*, to the Honour and Renoun of our *Hero* that purchas'd it with his Sword, and the Infinite Satisfaction of the whole Christian World.

Nor was this the only Piece of Service he did to *Europe*. Having reduc'd the *Western* World to a peaceable understanding of one another, he Extended his influence to the *East*, and was receiv'd as Mediator by the *Turk*, the Emperor

ror and his Allies, to put an End to their Differences, and give Peace to the whole World. Thus *Janus* Temple was ſhut by him, who alone was able to keep it open; and all the World enjoys a Solid and Profound Tranquility. *England* is Crown'd with Peace aud Plenty, and the Preſence of its Prince. And all our Neighbouring Countries refer all the Bleſſings they enjoy, to the Glory and Praiſe of the Immortal *Hero* that procur d 'em.

Ador'd be the Divine Goodneſs, that has conducted both us and our Prince from the Loweſt Ebb of Fortune, to this Glorious Poſture in which we now ſtand. That has Countenanc'd, defended and directed Our Prince in all the ſteps of his Conduct, and Continues ſtill to follow him with freſh and repeated Bleſſings. CHAP.

CHAP. IX.

Some thoughts upon the ſeveral Barbarous Aſſaſſinations from time to time contriv'd againſt his Majeſty's Sacred Perſon; and the Conduct of Divine Providence in preventing the Bloody Deſigns.

THE Hand of the Almighty appear'd ſo Viſibly in delivering our *Hero* from the Cruel Hands of Bloody Aſſaſſines, that to mention it is a ſufficient proof. I ſhall not ſtay to Relate the particulars of every Helliſh Plot; for my deſign is not to give a Hiſtory, but to make ſome ſhort Remarks

marks upon the turns of Divine Providence. I presume all the World is sufficiently inform'd of the Matter of Fact; and therefore 'twould be both needless and improper to attempt a Relation of it in this place.

There are only two or three Topic's relating to this Matter, that seem to be worthy of our Serious Remarks; and point out the Omnipotent Hand in Legible Characters. These are; 1 The Number of Repeated attempts. 2. The surprising manner of their Discovery. And 3. The Wonderful Consequences that ensue'd upon 'em. With these I shall concude this Treatise.

1. As to their Number. We Read in History of great men that have been Assassinated, as *Henry* the 4*th* of *France*, and *William* the first, Prince

Prince of *Orange*. But all the Records of time cannot furniſh an Inſtance of ſo many Aſſaſſinations againſt one Prince. And after all, this inhances the wonder, that he always eſcap'd. Others that were attack'd but once, fell on that occaſion. But he, tho' follow'd by repeated attempts from time to time, from his Infancy to this day, has been ſtill Miraculouſly preſerv'd, to the Glory and Praiſe of, the Divine Goodneſs, and the Infinite Satisfaction of *Chriſtendom*.

2. If we conſider the manner of the Diſcovery, and how Wonderfully the Helliſh Deſigns were ſtill prevented; we cannot but admire the Conduct of Divine Providence. The Complices themſelves, as they concur'd to hatch and lay the Plot, ſo they were made uſe of by God,

God, as Inſtruments to diſcover the Secret, and prevent the ſhedding of Precious Blood. God touch'd their hearts, and mov'd 'em to diſcloſe their own Machinations. Which is an undeniable proof of the Divine Care that watch'd over his Sacred Perſon.

3. As to the Conſequences that enſu'd upon 'em. Tho' they protended a diſmal *Omen*, yet God turn'd 'em to his Majeſty's advantage, and brought ſeveral things to bear, upon this occaſion, that otherwiſe might have been left undone. They procur'd him Friends, and render'd his Enemies more odious. They rivetted him in the Affections of his People, and animated his Parliament to aſſiſt him Vigorouſly, and Proſecute the Revenge with the utmoſt Zeal and Fury. In ſhort; all the little

little ſneaking attempts of Aſſaſſines, did but expoſe his Enemies the more, and juſtly entitled him to the Cordial Aſſiſtance of his Allies, and the Affectionate addreſſes of his People. They gave him the Opportunity of making an acqueſt, large as his Wiſhes, and laſting as the World.

F I N I S.

There is Newly Published,

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